



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
FROM: Fred Simonson, Maintenance Operations Manager
DATE: November 1, 2012
SUBJECT: Infrastructure Maintenance Programs Update

Staff wishes to update the Commission on the current operations of the Street Maintenance Division. Following the combining of the Traffic Sign & Paint function with the Street Maintenance Crew in mid-July 2010, the staffing flexibility created opportunities for cross training of staff and more efficient utilization of limited staff. The transition helped the Infrastructure Maintenance Division adjust to the loss of three (3) positions through the budget cutting process. Employees have expanded their skills and are now more capable of responding to service requests and infrastructure complaints within the City. Staff also wishes to update the Commission on the City's Sidewalk Program.

MUTCD (Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices) certification of employees in the Streets Crew provides for a skilled response for traffic sign and paint issues. This ability compliments their efforts to respond to paving, pothole and sidewalk trip hazard conditions. Why are certifications important? Codes for the application of marking stop bars, crosswalks, lane striping and sign placement are strict, and legal conformity is essential to safe traffic management. Regulatory signs and postings must match the street markings in order to enforce parking and traffic regulations.

Similarly, staffing flexibility has enhanced our sidewalk trip hazard mitigation effort. The City's crew is focusing on remove and replace (R&R) conditions while a contractor is capturing and documenting the hazard severity and locations in the eight districts south of Santa Monica Blvd. The contractor will then be using a horizontal sawing method to eliminate the defects, focusing on commercial and high trafficked sidewalks. We are also arranging a concrete grinding contract for sidewalk hazard abatement work in less traveled residential areas. The City's Capital Sidewalk, Curb and Gutter program will concentrate resources on larger replacement sites in conjunction with paving rehabilitation projects, adding to a comprehensive sidewalk hazard abatement program. This program should reduce the City's financial liability for trip and fall claims while providing an improved pedestrian experience for residents and guests.

The Street Maintenance crew will also continue its utility cut patch-paving efforts and as always, a proactive potholing program. Other significant work program efforts include the reflectivity survey, parking and regulatory sign replacements, intersection safety improvements, and special projects/event support for other City Departments. Resources have been constrained with the budget reductions in recent years, but the Street Crew has remained very responsive to the needs of the public.

At this point, I would like to introduce our Street Maintenance Superintendent for a brief presentation of current initiatives within the City of Beverly Hills and some of the common issues that the crew must work through to perform their work.